(b) if so, the proposed schedule and the estimated expenditure;

(c) whether the location has been finalized and land has been acquired; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (d) It is proposed to construct a Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra (PBK) on three plots of land (15A, 15B and 15D — total measuring 9666 sq.mts.) in Chanakyapuri, New Delhi, allotted to the Ministry by the Ministry of Urban Development. The PBK is expected to be completed by the end of 2012.

The Committee on Non-Plan Expenditure has recommended the proposal for construction of PBK at an estimated cost of Rs.107.22 crore subject to review of the cost estimated by the NBCC, in consultation with the CPWD, so as to ensure reasonableness of the estimates.

Increase in Chinese Military Power

†*310. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that China is increasing its military power constantly;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the statement of Chinese strategists in which there is a suggestion to work for dividing India into 20-30 parts; and

(c) if so, whether Government would determine its foreign and defence policy keeping in view the Chinese activities?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. M. KRISHNA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government is aware of media reports to such effect. The statement appears to be an expression of individual opinion and does not accord with China's officially stated position on India-China relations conveyed to India on several occasions, including at the highest level.

(c) Government keeps a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's security and takes all necessary measures, including through its foreign and defence policy, to safeguard it.

Incentive Scheme for Capacity Building

311. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Incentive Scheme for capacity building and objectives thereof;

(b) the number and dates of the proposals received by the Central Government from Madhya Pradesh under this scheme and the amount sought for each proposal; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the action being taken by the Central Government on the proposals received from Madhya Pradesh Government and by when they are likely to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Strengthening of capacity of urban local bodies has been identified as a key element of strategy for urban development in the Eleventh Plan and is integral component of various schemes like Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission, Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns, North Eastern Region Urban Development Programme and Scheme for Infrastructure Development for Satellite Towns/Counter Magnets. A separate provision of Rs.125 crore has also been made under the Eleventh Plan for capacity building of urban local bodies with the objective of setting up of centres of excellence in field of urban development, strengthening urban planing, project implementation and management, financial management, implementation of National Urban Sanitation Policy, municipal service delivery and implementation of municipal reforms related to property tax, accounting, e-Governance and Public Private Partnership.

(b) A proposal seeking Rs.2.55 crore from Central Government has been received in Ministry of Urban Development from Government of Madhya Pradesh under Capacity Building Scheme for Urban Local Bodies (CBULB). The proposal comprises two components *viz.* (i) Citywide sanitation planning and capacity building in 11 towns of Madhya Pradesh (Rs.1.1 crore) (ii) Strategizing of sanitation programme in the state (Rs. 1.45 crore).

(c) Ministry of Urban Development has examined the proposal of Government of Madhya pradesh and approved the Proposal.

Special Category Status to Bihar

*312. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether special category status demand of the State Government of Bihar has not been met by Government, so far;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has since examined the points on which the State has demanded the special category status;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (e) Special Category State status for allocation of Central Assistance to State Plans has generally been accorded in the past to States that have been characterized by a number of features necessitating special consideration. These features include: (1) hilly and difficult terrain,